

Washington, DC - Congressman Dan Lungren has joined Ranking Republican Members of 11 Committees and his Republican colleagues in supporting a one year moratorium on targeted spending projects, known as "earmarks." Congressman Lungren released the following statement:

"Since returning to Congress in 2005, I have been calling for 'earmark reform.' To lead the way, I have set high standards for vetting projects submitted to my office by enforcing a 'federal nexus' test - those projects that the federal government has a clear responsibility in assisting with funding.

"In addition, I have made all of my requests transparent to my constituents by placing them on my website and in the Congressional Record with an explanation answering 'why this is an appropriate use of federal funds.' Despite my best efforts to lead by example and encourage others to participate in these reforms, the process is still broken.

"Our country faces unprecedented spending and deficit levels. The American people have told us they are concerned with this problem and it is imperative that we work to control and fix it. Though a one year moratorium on earmarks will not be the total solution, it is a sign that we are taking the issue seriously. We must work to restore the faith of the American people.

"It is my intention that by the pressure imposed by this one year moratorium, we will commit to reforming the process for the next Congress."

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Congressman Dan Lungren serves as Ranking Member on the House Administration Committee in addition to serving on the Judiciary and Homeland Security Committees